

8-2000

## Museletter: August 2000

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# Museletter

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## WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

The library and technology staff and I welcome all new and returning law students to the Muse Law Library. We are excited about the coming year and the opportunities to assist you with your legal research and computer needs and questions. Our goal is to make certain that you receive the assistance in the library and technology areas to help you complete successfully your classroom and other law school related projects. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Before I introduce you to the staff, let me mention several new developments from this summer.



- Wiring and networking of classrooms: You can connect now to the network in ALL law school classrooms, including the second floor classrooms and seminar rooms.
- Printers in Computer Lab: Two new, faster speed printers were added to the Computer Lab. Ginsburg and O'Connor print 18 pages per minute and hold 1,100 sheets of paper each.
- Laptop security: Security clamps were added to every carrel. You can purchase a security cable and run the cable through the security clamp. Although there is no way to prevent theft completely, we believe that security cables will certainly deter thefts.
- Instructor workstations: New computer workstations were added in classrooms 101, 102, and 114.
- Wireless network technology: We hope to add wireless network capability to the Moot Court Room later this summer. Watch for news about this exciting development.

### Staff

Very soon in your law school career you will need help with research and technology. The library's Reference/Research Services Librarians, **Gail Zwirner** and **John Barden**, are available to help you with both traditional and electronic legal research questions. Other librarians, **Paul Birch**, **Timothy Coggins**, **Joyce Manna Janto**, **Sally Wambold**, and **James Wirrell**, assist with reference and research assistance as well and handle other responsibilities, including teaching in the first year Lawyering Skills program.

The Circulation Desk staff will help you with reserve materials, checking out library materials, photocopier questions, location of materials, and other related issues. **James Wirrell** is the library's Circulation/Reference Services Librarian. He

## Fall 2000 Regular Library Hours

Sun.-10:00 a.m.-  
Midnight  
Mon.-Thurs.-7:30 a.m.  
- Midnight  
Fri. - 7:30 a.m.-  
9:00 p.m.  
Sat. - 9:00 a.m. -  
9:00 p.m.

## Fall Break (Oct. 13-17)

Fri. Oct. 13  
- 7:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.  
Sat & Sun. Oct. 14-15  
- 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Mon. Oct. 16  
- 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.



*Muse  
Library  
Facts*

*In 1928 the  
Law Library  
expanded its  
collection to  
7,500 volumes  
to meet ABA  
accreditation  
standards.  
Today, the  
collection has  
nearly 300,000  
volumes.*

oversees the operations of the Circulation Desk, supervises the student assistants at the desk, provides reference assistance, and teaches in the first year Lawyering Skills program. **Paul Birch** is the library's Computer Services Librarian and the web master for the Law School. He works at the Reference Desk and provides technology assistance to faculty who are integrating technology into the classroom. **Kimberly Wiseman**, Computer Services Assistant, is responsible for training and supervision of the Computer Help Desk operations. She also troubleshoots hardware and software problems, solves many problems herself, but refers other problems to Paul and others. **Alison Merner** is the library's Network Administrator. She manages the Law School's servers and network. Law and some undergraduate students staff the Computer Help Desk. They, along with the permanent staff, are happy to help you with software and hardware questions and/or problems.

The library's Technical Services division organizes the collection to guarantee that you can find what you need for your courses and research. The staff orders library materials, catalogs and classifies the new materials, and handles many other related duties, including the distribution of newspapers and magazines, the shelving of library materials, binding, and looseleaf filing. Technical Services staff includes **Sally Wambold**, Technical Services Librarian; **Janette Alsworth**, Library Associate; **Betty Cliborne**, **Timothy Edwards**, **Leah Viar**, and **Bob Weertman**, all Library Assistants. There are two part-time employees, **Robert Avramescu** and **John Bric**, who are responsible for the filing of looseleaf services. Staff at the Circulation and Reference Desks will direct you to the offices of Technical Services personnel.

Administrative staff of the library are **Timothy L. Coggins**, Director & Associate Professor of Law, **Joyce Manna Janto**, Deputy Director, and **Deborah Barlett**, Administrative Assistant. Coggins directs and teaches in the first year Lawyering Skills program; Janto also teaches in the Lawyering Skills program and teaches Professional Responsibility during summer school.

If you have any questions about library policies, including hours, operations, and laptop requirement, or any suggestions and recommendations, do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Enjoy the coming year. Welcome again!

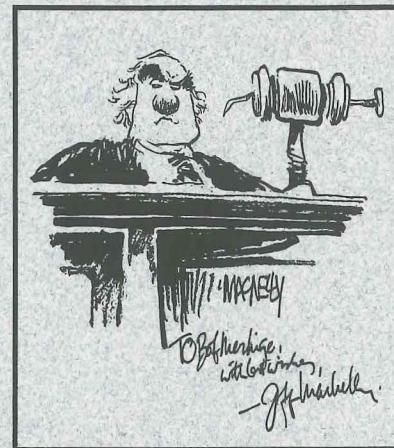
Timothy L. Coggins  
Director & Associate Professor



## JEFF MACNELLY (1947-2000): CONNECTIONS TO THE MERHIGE PAPERS

BY JOHN BARDEN

Jeff MacNelly, who created a newspaper office in the treetops with his comic strip *Shoe*, won three Pulitzer Prizes for his insightful, acerbic editorial cartoons. Two of these Prizes arrived while he was staff cartoonist at *The Richmond News Leader*, where he began his professional career in 1970. From his arrival in Richmond at the age of 23, MacNelly regularly lampooned the Richmond social, political, and judicial establishment on a wide variety of topics. The field was ripe for the picking: the city's school desegregation controversy was in full swing, and Judge Robert R. Merhige, Jr., presiding over the complex case in Federal District Court, was at the center. Although MacNelly's native conservatism was often at odds with Judge Merhige's rulings on social issues, the two men appear to have struck up a relationship based on mutual admiration for each other's professionalism. Until MacNelly left Richmond for *The Chicago Tribune* in 1982, Judge Merhige's rulings and opinions often made their way into MacNelly's editorial cartoons.



For more than ten years, Judge Merhige taught trial tactics (the precursor of today's second-year "law skills" program) as an adjunct faculty member. It was the custom for each trial tactics class to present the instructor with a memento of some sort. The 1980 class persuaded MacNelly to draw a cartoon of the Judge on the bench with gavel in hand, which is shown above. Although the picture suggests that the cartoonist found the Judge's opinions somewhat "barbed" on occasion, the inscription captures the more genial relationship that the two men enjoyed. Judge Merhige has been heard to say that people sometimes sent him gavels and he never knew why, since he never used them on the bench.

In 1998, the University of Richmond Law School Library received the papers of Judge Robert R. Merhige, Jr. Judge Merhige, retired from the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, and an alumnus of the Law School, presided over numerous prominent cases, including Richmond's school desegregation cases and the Dalkon Shield products liability cases. The papers reflect his many professional and judicial activities from the 1940s through the 1990s.

### Virginia Law Librarians Receive National Recognition at Annual Conference

The Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) received special recognition at the annual conference of the American Association of Law Libraries in July in Philadelphia. The Virginia Chapter was the only association to receive the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation "for its leadership in strengthening the role of law librarians within the legal community through its relationship with the Virginia State Bar."

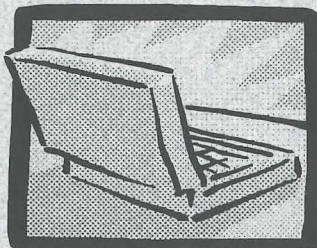
For several years VALL has contributed articles for publication in the *Virginia Lawyer*. The current editor had such positive feedback about VALL's writers, he asked the association to coordinate an entire issue, which was distributed as the February 2000 issue.

The State Bar's statistics show that these articles have been so popular, that there have been more "hits" to these articles on the website than any others. Topics included Internet myths and realities, compiling a legislative history in Virginia, Virginia administrative law, and comparing Virginia case law sources.





## LIBRARIAN/COMPUTER STAFF TO PROVIDE RESEARCH AND COMPUTER



Based on student feedback, the librarians and computer staff will provide research refresher classes for returning students, and computer application training for all interested students. Research refreshers will cover comparisons of print, online and internet sources. All classes are on Tuesdays at noon in Room 114. Classes should last 45 minutes.

### Research Classes

Sept. 5: Internet search engine strategies  
 Sept. 19: Case law research  
 Oct. 3: Statutory research  
 Oct. 24: Regulatory research  
 Nov. 7: Virginia materials

### Computer Classes

Sept. 12: Home computing options  
 Sept. 26: Word/WordPerfect : how to they compare  
 Oct. 10: Windows 98 Tips & Tricks  
 Oct. 31: Exam preparation  
 Nov. 14: Exam preparation

*Based on student feedback, the librarians and computer staff will provide research refreshers to returning students, and computer application*

*In 1994, the Law School required incoming students to own a laptop computer. All carrels were "wired" by 1995.*

## ONE-L ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH TRAINING (REQUIRED)

All first year law students will be required to take a Westlaw and Lexis class as part of the legal research requirements. This "mini-training" will include retrieving a decision or statute with a citation, utilizing the links within the retrieved text, and using online citators. Please sign up at the reference desk for one class in each week. All classes will be held in Room 101.

### Westlaw

Sept. 4: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Sept. 5: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sept. 6: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Sept. 7: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sept. 8: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Lexis

Sept. 11: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Sept. 12: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sept. 13: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Sept. 14: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Sept. 15: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
           2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



## RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

In addition to many chapter updates, additional volumes of reporters, and regular supplementation to treatises, UR Law faculty members recently have contributed the following titles to the legal literature.

### **Asizah al-Hibri**

*An Introduction to Muslim Women's Rights*, in *WINDOWS OF FAITH*, (Gisela Web, ed., Syracuse Univ. Press 2000)

### **David Brennen**

*The Power of the Treasury: Racial Discrimination, Public Policy and "Charity" in Contemporary Society*, 33 U.C. DAVIS L. REV. 389 (2000)

*What's in a Name: IRS' Attempts to Tax Nonprofits on the Exploitation of the Organization's or Its Members' Names*, COMMUNITY TAX L. REP., Winter 2000, at 7

### **Hamilton Bryson**

*SAMUEL DODD'S REPORTS* (Carolina Academic Press 2000)

### **John Douglass**

*Balancing Hearsay and Criminal Discovery*, 68 FORDHAM L. REV. 2097 (2000)

### **Robert E. Shepherd, Jr.**

*Juvenile Justice: Speedy Trials for Juveniles*, CRIM. JUST., Winter 2000, at 53

*Pursuing a Dream: The Juvenile Court Movement in Virginia*, CHILDREN'S LEGAL RTS. JRL., Winter 1999-2000, at 21

*Juvenile Justice: Sentencing a Child for Murder in a 'Get Tough' Era*, CRIM. JUST., Spring 2000, at 70

*Introduction: Sentencing Opinion: People of the State of Michigan v. Nathaniel Abraham*, JUV. & FAM. CT. JRL., Spring 2000, at 1



### **Rodney A. Smolla**

*Privacy and the Right to Gather News*, 67 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 1097 (1999)

*Qualified Intimacy, Celebrity, and the Case for a Newsgathering Privilege*, 33 U. RICH. L. REV. 1233 (2000)

THE FIRST AMENDMENT: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, REGULATION OF MASS MEDIA, FREEDOM OF RELIGION (Carolina Academic Press 1999)

### **Jonathan Stubbs**

Oliver W. Hill, THE BIG BANG, BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION AND BEYOND: THE LIFE STORY OF OLIVER W. HILL, SR. (Jonathan K. Stubbs, ed., 4-G Pub. 2000)

### **Peter N. Swisher**

*A Realistic Consensus Approach to the Insurance Law Doctrine of Reasonable Expectations*, 35 TORT & INS. L. JRL. 729 (2000)

### **Michael Allan Wolf**

*Environmental Slogans for the New Millennium*, 30 ENVTL. L. REP. 10283 (April 2000)

*Fifteenth Amendment, Nineteenth Amendment*, in *CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES*. With Wolf, D.A. (Macmillan 2000)

*Muse  
Library  
Facts*

*The University  
spends over  
\$2,000 per  
student on library  
materials each  
year, a rate of  
investment which  
places us in the  
top 15% of  
American law  
schools.*



## *Deliberate Intent* Premieres on FX

*Deliberate Intent* is the true story about the controversial decision by the Fourth Circuit, that the book *Hit Man* "aided and abetted" a homicide, and therefore its publisher was not guaranteed First Amendment protection. The U.S. Supreme Court denied the petition for certiorari of the book's publisher, Paladin Enterprises.

Why is this of interest to the University of Richmond Law School? Professor Rodney A. Smolla represented the family suing the publisher and wrote the book about this famous case.

In the press package, Professor Smolla explained their argument: "it was plain that Paladin could only be legally held responsible if there was some way to distinguish the kind of murder manual that Paladin had published from the myriad of other examples of violent speech in American society. . . Our answer to this was fairly simple. The point of all the other forms of mass media is to *entertain*. The point of a murder manual is to *train*. If someone watches a violent flick and goes out on a killing spree, you cannot say with a straight face that the movie's producers actually intended that result. But if somebody reads a murder training manual and goes on a 'killing spree, you can."

*Deliberate Intent* premiered on August 6, and the network expects to air it again in August. The library will obtain a copy for the video collection when it is available.

## At the Movies: *Bossa Nova*

By Gail Zwirner

Exquisite shots of Rio de Janeiro's mountains and beach, suitable for *National Geographic*, is the setting for this romantic spoof about a widowed ex-flight attendant (Amy Irving), who now teaches English and falls in love with one of her students, an attorney (Antonio Fagundes). Until he spotted Irving, he was grieving over his separation from his wife, who had fallen for her tai-chi instructor, and was practicing beyond his expertise in contracts law to represent his father in a fourth divorce.

That's only the beginning of the twists and turns of the ensemble cast of *Bossa Nova*. If it weren't for Amy Irving's name recognition, one character wouldn't stand out as the leading performance. All characters were charming — from the soccer hero learning English to move to London (where he expected a flat overlooking the "ocean"), to the couple having an Internet romance between Rio and New York, to the tailor and son who "listen" to their fabric, to the eager law intern, who hadn't had the benefit of Career Services' advice on proper office attire.

*Bossa Nova* is a nice break from the summer blockbusters. Rating: Three gavels

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The **Museletter** is the official newsletter of the William Taylor Muse Law Library at the School of Law of the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA 23173.

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**Contributors:** Timothy Coggins and John Barden.